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playback means operable for reproducing information recorded on a rotatable recording medium, said recorded information representing audio programs, character information associated with said programs, and one of (i) a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) and (ii) an electronic mail address (e-mail);

character information detecting means for detecting said character information recorded in an area of said recording medium and reproduced by said playback means; and

character-string searching means for searching said detected character information for a string of characters representing address information pertaining to one of (i) the URL used to obtain program information associated with said programs and (ii) the electronic mail address (e-mail).

6. (Twice Amended) A playback-signal processing apparatus comprising:
storage means for storing information representing audio programs, character information, and one of (i) a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) and (ii) an electronic mail address (e-mail) reproduced from a rotatable recording medium, said character information being associated with said programs recorded on said recording medium;

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search means for searching said character information for a string of characters representing address information pertaining to one of (i) the URL used to obtain program information associated with said programs and (ii) the electronic mail address (e-mail); and

display means for displaying said character information and indicating information indicating whether or not said address information is included in said character information on a display.